

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Tetsuji KAWAZURA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1711

Application No.: 09/506,443

Examiner: Jeffrey C. Mullis

Filed: February 18, 2000

Atty. Dkt. No.: 100021-09058

For: RUBBER COMPOSITION

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6/13/02PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTCommissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

June 11, 2002

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits (a Continued Prosecution Application was filed on March 20, 2002), Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments without prejudice.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 14 as follows. A marked-up copy showing changes to the claims is attached hereto.

Claim 1. (Amended) A rubber composition comprising (i) an incompatible polymer blend comprising at least two diene rubbers selected from the group consisting of rubbers containing at least one conjugated diene monomer and, optionally, at least one aromatic vinyl monomer and forming two incompatible polymer phases (A) and (B) and (ii) 0.1 to 20 parts by weight, based upon 100 parts by weight of the total polymer component including the block copolymer, of a block copolymer having at least two mutually incompatible blocks

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Comments:

Please enter the attached Preliminary Amendment, in connection with the above-identified application. It is understood that the amendments of January 22, 2002 have not been entered.

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PATENT APPLICATION**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE FILING

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

June 11, 2002

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown above and an original, having an original signature, is retained by sender as evidence of the content of the facsimile transmission.


Tanja Dillingham, Patent Secretary

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